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LB 709

the employer might say, well, that's what Medicaid is for. That is not a worthwhile beneficial approach. There could be an individual working for a company who has relatives who are beneficiaries, and you can read the listing in the amendment. This is not asking any of these companies to tell to what extent they're plundering the public till. It might be possible, even under that thick cloak of secrecy which these businesses have managed to get the Legislature to grant to them. The names of the companies receiving these companies might be available to the public. I don't know. If some of you have read Harry Potter, in at least one of the books it talks about an invisibility cloak. Once anybody gets under that cloak, that person is invisible to everybody else. Well, the Legislature has granted an invisibility cloak to conceal much of what is going on with these gougers of the public and plunderers of the public till. This amendment goes directly to the cost of Medicaid. If businesses are creating new jobs and they're hiring people and those people are not given insurance coverage, the fact that those people are not covered but may need Medicaid because they cannot afford to provide their own insurance coverage, is something that would contribute directly to the increased cost of Medicaid. Senator Jensen has talked about this. Senator Burling, as I said, gave a butterfly's wing fluttering reference to it. Senator Byars has talked about it in detail. Senator Beutler has talked about it. Senator Erdman has requested that those of us who have proposals that we think ought to be added should present them in the form of amendments. And if you look at this amendment, you will see that it fits squarely within the realm of what LB 709 is discussing. Up to this point, I have had no intention to try to prevent this bill from moving forward and the study from being undertaken. But if I detect an inclination on the part of the body to say we look at some other things but we're not going to touch this holy area where business, through its practices, may have a direct impact on the cost of Medicaid, it's going to change my view and perception of what LB 709 is really about. I know that there are some things the "Repelican" Party has an interest in doing. I know that when they talk about doing it on a national level, they have people in various states, various party positions. There might be web sites where the position of the party is made clear. Somebody else may look at that and, without any